Bombay Gazette.

PUBLISHED THRICE A WEEK, ON EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND FRIDAY, MORNING.

PRICE 13 RUPEES PER QUARTER:—52 RUPEES PER ANNUM:—OR, IF PAID IN ADVANCE, 48 RUPEES PER ANNUM.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in Malice."

Vol. LI. FRIDAY, MAY 15, 1840. 3,160.



FOR LIVERPOOL.—The First Class Ship "ORESTES," 529 Tons, THOS. SMITH, Commander, will sail early in May, and has superior accommodations for passengers. For freight or Passage apply to Captain SMITH or to Messrs. HIGGINSON and CARDWELL.—Meadow Street, 15th May 1840.



FOR LIVERPOOL.—The fine first class Ship "WILLIAM SHARPLES," of 794 Tons, WM. JONES, Commander, will have quick despatch. For freight or passage apply to Captain JONES, or to Messrs. HIGGINSON AND CARDWELL.—Bombay, 15th May 1840.



FOR LONDON, calling at the Cape, if inducement offers, the River Built Ship CATHERINE, of 600 Tons, CHARLES SAMUEL EVANS, Commander, will have quick dispatch. For freight or passage apply to Captain EVANS, at the Office of Messrs. FORBES AND CO.—Bombay, 15th May 1840.

ADVERTISEMENT.

BANK OF BOMBAY.

IT having come to the knowledge of the Directors of the Bank of Bombay, that parties have been subjected to a charge in the Bazar for converting Bank Notes into specie, they deem it necessary to inform the Native community that Cash can always be obtained at the Bank Office for Bombay Bank Notes, free of Charge.

By order of the Directors,
W. W. CARGILL,
Actg. Secretary and Treasurer.

Bombay, 14th May 1840.

જાહેર ખબર*

ગુમાવ્યાની બેંક*

બેંકની નોટનાં નાણાં ઉપજાવવાસારૂં બજારમાં લોકોને ખરચ પડેલ કેવું ગુમાવ્યાની બેંકનાં ડાયરેક્ટરોને માલમ પડેલા પર થી નોટાવો આપવો લોકોને જાહેર કરવા માંગેલ કે બેંકની નોટનાં નાણાં કાંઇ ખરચ શીવાઈ બેંકની આફીસમાં હંમેશાં મલશે*

ડાયરેક્ટરોનાં હુકમથી*

ઝમલીજ ઝવલીજ ફેમારઝીલ*

આકટીંગ સેક્રેટરી તથા ટ્રેઝરર*

તારીખ ૧૪ મી મેઈ ૧૮૪૦

اشتهار

بيگ منيي

ازين جا بتمام مرمان منيي را
خبر داده مي شود كه براي حصول
نمودن روپيه نوت بينك منيي را
در بازار مردمان را خرچ مي شود
چني خبر به مختاركاران بيك منيي را
معلوم و مفهوم گردد براي همي اهل
منيي را ظاهر وماهر مي نمايند كه
روپيه نوت بينك منيي بلاخرچ از
افيس بينك منيي مدام به خوبي
حاصل خواهد شد

ازحكم مختاركاران بيك
د بلي يو د بلي يو كيارگل
آكتنگ سكرتاري و تري جرآر
تاريخ ١٤ مي سنه ١٨٤٠

जाहीर खबर

मुंबईचि पेढी

बाजारांत लोकांस या पेढिचा चिन्हा वटी वाले नेउन विकाव्या लागतात अशे या पेढिचे कामदारांचे नजरेस आल्यावरून त्या कामदारांस हि गोष्ट लोकांस कळविणे अवश्य आहे की मुंबईचे पेढिचे नोटिचा पैका कोंहीं वटा वर न पडतां रोख पेढिचे हापिसांत मिळेल.

पेढिचे कामदारांचे
हुकुमावरून
डब्लु डब्लु. कारजिल.
आगटिंग सेक्रेटारी व चेजरर.

INDIA.

JAMES BARBER AND CO.
64, CORNHILL,
EAST INDIA ARMY AGENTS,
AND
AGENTS FOR PASSENGERS TO INDIA, CHINA, AND THE COLONIES.

CAPTAIN BARBER takes this opportunity of contradicting a report, that he has relinquished his Agency business in consequence of being appointed "Superintendent of Steam Vessels" to the "East India Steam Navigation Company;" and to state, that having taken into Partnership Mr. G. W. FIELD, the Agency in future will be carried on under the firm of JAMES BARBER and Co.

Captain BARBER has advocated "Steam Communication with India," on the principle that it is his duty, at all times, to promote the interests of the Indian community, from whom his Agency has received much kind support: and looking for an increased patronage, he has admitted a Partner, that prompt and unremitting attention shall be paid to his constituents.

The following brief outline of the service rendered by the Agency of JAMES BARBER and Co. for an annual subscription of One Guinea, paid in advance, will prove acceptable to Families resident in this country who are in any way connected with India.

There is a comfortable *Reading Room*, where the latest Indian newspapers are regularly filed, and it is also well supplied with English Papers and Periodicals. Every information that can be desired on Indian affairs will be correctly given, if applied for personally, or by letter.

Parties in the country, under the present irregular system, are liable to much inconvenience and uncertainty in the transmission of letters overland; but if forwarded through this Agency they will be registered, the proper postage will be paid, and charged to Subscribers in their annual account.

The Mail for India *viâ* France, is made up IN LONDON on the 4th of every month. The Postage is 2*s.* 8*d.* if not exceeding one quarter of an ounce in weight, and 3*s.* 6*d.* if under half an ounce; but as it increases considerably when beyond that weight, economy enjoins the use of the thinnest paper and small wafers. Newspapers must *always* be posted within a week of their date, and by this route are charged 2*d.*

By the Mail *viâ* Falmouth the Postage is 1*s.* for half an ounce, 2*s.* if under an ounce, 4*s.* if above that weight and under two ounces, 6*s.* if above two and not exceeding three ounces. The dates of despatch by this route are not to be implicitly relied on before the Post-office notice is given; but they are supposed to be every Fourth Saturday, from the 14th instant, till September next, when the contract will cease. Newspapers by this route go free. The charge at present for parcels is too extravagant to invite attention, except where speed is of the *greatest* importance.

The "East India Steam Navigation Company" have, however, published their scheme, and when it is completed, trunks, cases, books, and above all, Passengers will be transmitted with comfort, economy, regularity, security, and despatch. Even now many prefer the overland route and send their heavy baggage round the Cape of Good Hope. JAMES BARBER and Co. have a warehouse to receive the same for shipment to India, or to retain it (if consigned from India to them) until parties themselves arrive.

Passages to India are negotiated either in the first or second class ships on the most advantageous terms without charge to the parties, and JAMES BARBER and Co. hold themselves responsible for the comfort and conduct on board ships of their recommendation. The shipment of the baggage and the arrangement of the cabins are carefully superintended. Baggage cleared, ware-housed, or forwarded. Plans of ships and prices of cabins will be sent on application.

Pay and Pensions received. Life Insurance and Insurance on baggage, passage, and goods, effected; letters of credit granted; private and public business transacted at all the Government offices and at the East India House.

Messes of H. M. Regiments going on Foreign service to India and the Colonies fitted out, and their wine and supplies sent periodically, being provided with strict regard to economy and quality.

It has been an object of consideration with Captain BARBER, for years past, to induce an Insurance Office to grant facilities to the service in India, (as well as to others,) to obtain, by way of deferred annuity, what may be termed a retiring pension or a pension for Widows and Children. JAMES BARBER and Co. have great pleasure in drawing attention to the "British Empire Office," to those who wish to secure advantages so great, or who may desire to have their lives insured at the lowest possible rate, consistent with security to the insurers and the insured.

Military Appointments and Miscellaneous Supplies obtained direct from the Manufacturers, at the wholesale prices, as well as Books, Papers, Musical Instruments, Sporting Equipments of all kinds: and JAMES BARBER and Co. pledge themselves to use the greatest *Economy consistent with Quality.*

Regimental Messes.—The great facility and frequency of communication with the Presidencies of India, and the Improved mode of transit from thence generally to the Military Station, afford to Messes the opportunity of receiving a constant supply, fresh and good in quality, in place of being subject to an unsatisfactory outlay for trash, possessing none of the properties (but the labels) of the vender's articles whose name they assume.

Individul Orders must be accompanied by remittance, reference for payment, or authority to draw.

Annual Subscriptions in India of Twelve Rupees, paid in advance, will entitle the subscriber's family in England to the services of this agency.

Commissions of every description transacted in London for Subscribers in the Country.

The following Agents in India will receive Annual Subscriptions:—

MESSRS. MACKILLOP, STEWART, AND Co	}	CALCUTTA.
F. BURKIN YOUNG & Co.	}	
BINNY AND Co.	}	MADRAS.
JOSEPH BARROW & Co..	}	
W. NICOL AND Co.		BOMBAY.

12th March, 1840.

TO-MORROW Saturday the 16th Instant, Messrs. ROBERT FRITH AND Co. will sell by Public Auction at a Godown under the Chamber of Commerce. The Damaged Goods saved from the Ship "*Competent*," consisting of Broad Cloths, Flannel, Turkey Red and Striped Chintz., Long Cloths, Madapollams, Sheeting Cloths, Jaconets, Senna Cloth, Cotton Yarn, Ham, Cheese and Oilman's Stores, &c. &c.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

MESSRS. ROBERT FRITH AND CO. will submit for Sale by Public Auction on Wednesday the 27th May, all that valuable property known as the *Bombay Gazette* Newspaper, together with the Types, Printing Presses, and the whole of the Stock and Effects connected therewith.—Further particulars of which will appear in a future publication.—Bombay, 15th May 1840.

LONDON MADE SADDLERY.

MESSRS. ROBERT FRITH AND CO. have received for Sale on Commission, an Invoice of the above from a first rate Maker, consisting of Buggy Harness, Gentlemen's Saddles and Bridles, Martingales, Horse Cloth &c. &c.

A. VIEGAS begs to inform his friends and the Public, that he has this day removed his Library and Printing Establishments to Meadow Street, No. 26, opposite Eduljee Cursetjee's Sons.

Bombay, 15th May 1840.

NOTICE.

WANTED a few good able English Compositors, salaries handsome. Apply to the Printer of this paper.

Gazette Office, 15th May 1840.

THE SECOND CALCUTTA LOTTERY OF 1840.

TICKETS and Shares in the above Lottery are for Sale at WITHULDASS BHOYCHUND AND Co. opposite to the General Post Office at the following prices viz.

Whole Ticket at Rupees.....			116	each.
Half	Do.	„ „.....	58½	„
Quarter	Do.	„ „.....	29½	„
Eighth	Do.	„ „.....	15	„

TERMS CASH.

THE SIXTY SIXTH MADRAS GOVERNMENT LOTTERY.

TICKETS and Shares in the Second Class of the above Lottery are for Sale at WITHULDASS BHOYCHUND AND Co. at the following prices viz.

Whole Ticket at Rupees.....			86	each.
Half	Do.	„ „.....	43	„
Quarter	Do.	„ „.....	21½	„
Eighth	Do.	„ „.....	11	„

TERMS CASH.

Bombay, 8th May 1840.

NOTICE.

FOR SALE.—At this Office, THE CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY for the present year, with the ARMY, CIVIL, AND INDIAN NAVY LISTS, EUROPEAN INHABITANTS, corrected to the latest possible date, and the list of H. H. the NIZAM'S ARMY,—It likewise contains regulations relating to the three services and to the Mercantile Community, with a variety of useful Tables and other matter, printed on English Paper in new Types. As only a limited number of copies is struck off, gentlemen desirous of having the CALENDAR and DIRECTORY are requested to make early applications. MARRYATT'S CODE OF SIGNALS of the latest Edition now in the Press, will form a seperate Book, and delivered to Subscribers in a few days.

Bombay Gazette Office, 15th May 1840.

GENERAL ORDERS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

BY THE HON'BLE THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

Bombay Castle, 11th May 1840.

No. 339 of 1840.—Senior Assistant Apothecary Vaz Pereira, now doing duty in the Indian Navy, having been promoted to the rank of Hospital Steward and attached to the Hospital of Her Majesty's 6th Regiment, is relieved from that branch of the Service, and directed to repair to the Presidency forthwith; and Assistant Apothecary N. Moraes is placed at the disposal of the Superintendent Indian Navy in his place.

First Grade Apprentice J. Elliot is promoted to the rank of Assistant Apothecary, and placed at the disposal of the Superintendent Indian Navy, for the purpose of relieving Assistant Apothecary F. Cabral.

Bombay Castle, 12th May 1840.

No. 340 of 1840.—By a Resolution passed in the General Department under date 8th instant, 1st Grade Apprentice Shewah Bhoir of the 13th Regiment Native Infantry, has been transferred to the Civil Hospital at Rutnagherry.

ERRATUM.

The word "deceased" opposite the name of W. C. Anderson, in General Order (No. 307) dated the 29th ultimo, should be omitted.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council,
E. M. WOOD, Lieut. Col. *Secy. to Govt.*

Civil Appointments, &c.

TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

REVENUE.

Bombay Castle, 13th May 1840.

Mr. G. Coles, acting sub-collector of Broach, is permitted to remain in the districts, on deputation, until the commencement of the monsoon.

Mr. E. L. Jenkins, to be third assistant to the collector and Magistrate of Khandesh.

Mr. J. D. Inverarity, acting first assistant to the collector of Ahmednuggur, is allowed an extension for two days, of the leave of absence granted to him on the 8th ultimo.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 13th May 1840.

The Hon'ble the Governor in Council is pleased to appoint Mr. T. Ogilvie, to be second assistant to the political commissioner for Guzerat and resident at Baroda.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council.
L. R. REID, *Chief Secy.*

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 9th May 1840.

H. H. Glass Esq. judge and session judge of Ahmednugger, resumed charge of his office on the 23rd ultimo.

Bombay Castle, 13th May 1840.

H. H. Glass Esqr. judge and sesssion judge of Ahmednuggur is allowed an extension for five days of the leave of absence granted to him on the 18th of March last, under the provisions of the absentee re-

gulation, on private affairs.

The Honorable the Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature have been pleased to make the following temporary appointments.

Richard Burgass Esquire to act in the several offices of registrar on the equity and admiralty sides, prothonotary on the plea side, clerk of the paupers, reading clerk and keeper of the records and muniments of the Supreme Court.

These appointments are to have effect from the 4th instant, and are to continue in force during the absence of J. L. Philips Esquire, allowed to proceed to the Neilgherry Hills for the benefit of his heath.

Edward Davies Esquire, to act as examiner to the Court for the relief of insolvent debtors.

Mahomed Yoonoos Haffiz to act as 2nd native interpreter and translator, and interpreter in the Arabic and Persian languages to the Supreme Court, and interpreter to the grand jury, vice Shaikh Hedayutoolah deceased.

This arrangement is to have effect from the 6th ultimo, the date on which Mahomed Yoonoos Haffiz was appointed to conduct the duties of those offices.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 11th May 1840.

John Samuel Dennis DeVitre Esq. appointed by the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, a writer in the civil service of this presidency, having arrived on the 6th instant, from England, per Hon'ble Company's Steamer "Victoria," is admitted on the Bombay establishment from that date.

Charles H. Thatcher Esq. civil surgeon at Kaira, received charge of the civil duties of that station, from assistant surgeon Keith, on the 25th ultimo.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council.
W. R. MORRIS, *Secy. to Govt.*

NOTIFICATION.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

The Hon'ble the Governor in Council is pleased to notify, that a Board of Education has been constituted, composed of the following Gentlemen, to whom has been committed the general control and superintendence of all Government School and Educational Establishments, under this Presidency.

The Hon'ble Sir J. W. Awdry, Kt...President.
W. C. Bruce Esquire,....
W. R. Morris Esquire....
John McLennan Esquire,
and three Native Gentlemen, to be nominated by the Native Education Society..... } Members.
J. Bird Esquire, Secretary.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council.
W. R. MORRIS, *Secy. to Govt.*

Bombay, Castle, 13th May 1840.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

NOTICE

Is hereby given, that it is the intention of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council to despatch the Steamer Hugh Lindsay to the Persian Gulf, on the 15th instant.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council,
E. M. WOOD, Lieut Col. *Secy. to Govt.*
Bombay Castle, 8th May 1840.

NOTIFICATION.

With reference to the Notification issued from this Department under date the 13th ultimo, the attention of the public is particularly called to the circumstance, that an earlier date than is usual, (vizt. the 23rd of May) has been fixed on, for the despatch of the Steamer with the Mail for June next.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council.
E. M. WOOD, Lieut. Col. *Secy. to Govt.*

NOTIFICATION.

It is the intention of the Honorable the Governor in Council to despatch a Steamer from Bombay to the Persian Gulph with a Mail for England, on the 22d of June.

Arrangements have been ordered to be made, to secure, as far as practicable, the safe and speedy passage of the Mails from Bussora to Beyroot, but it is essential that letters both private and public be made of small dimensions, that the Mail bags may be light.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council,
E. M. WOOD, Lieut. Col. *Secy to Govt*

Bombay Castle, 9th May 1840.

No. 43 of 1840.—Assistant Surgeon John Craig, is placed at the disposal of the Superintendent of the Indian Navy, for duty in the Hon'ble Company's Steamer "Cleopatra."

Apprentice Dempsey, is promoted to the rank of 1st Hospital Assistant, and placed at the disposal of the Superintendent of the Indian Navy, for the purpose of being employed on board the "Cleopatra."

Bombay Castle, 11th May 1840.

No. 44 of 1840.—Senior Assistant Apothecary Vaz Pereira, now doing duty in the Indian Navy, having been promoted to the rank of Hospital Steward, and attached to the Hospital of Her Majesty's 6th Regiment, is relieved from that branch of the Service and directed to repair to the Presidency forthwith, and Assistant Apothecary N. Moraes, is placed at the disposal of the Superintendent Indian Navy in his place.

1st Grade Apprentice J. Elliot, is promoted to the rank of Assistant Apothecary, and placed at the disposal of the Superintendent of the Indian Navy, for the purpose of relieving Asssistant Apothecary F. Cabral.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council,
E. M. WOOD, Lieut. Col. *Secy to Govt.*

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

MILITARY BOARD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

MR. EDITOR,—I understand that the "Conductors alluded to by your correspondent H. B. in your last periodical do draw their full Military allowances, in addition to the high salaries they are stated to enjoy in the Military Board Office, while on the other hand, large deductions are made from the Military allowances of Commissioned Officers holding such important situations as Secretary to Government, &c. This I think Mr. Editor is very unjust, and similar declarations ought likewise to be made from the Military allowances of the former, in accordance with the proposition of the Military Board to Government, when they solicited the employment of Military men as Clerks on a reduced "s cale that a great saving would be effected by the sanction of this measure."

Your well wisher,
PETER SNACKS.

4th May, 1840.

ELEGANT EXTRACT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

MR. EDITOR,—I send you the enclosed letter being an authentic epistle, as a proof of the March of Intellect in the East, and the attainment in the English language, and turn of expression of a young East Indian.

Your's
W.

DEAR BROTHER,—I beg to state you by the means of this address, that I find none, with whom may I express or who may make to you comprehend the feelings of my pains and sorrow that hitherto are placed in my breast, for observing the mindless regard of your towards a rightful Sister, that am living still without any kind of your due inquiry and notice! So better I presume myself as the true designed relic of the vary title to try in a way or other (as for my better satisfaction) to bring the alluded endurance of my pain and sorrow to your valuable intelligence with this my own spaceman, which some time may enable with it to melt and molify your hard proposition, should God (at first of all) grant it to be so.—Consequently I hope that every thing can be changeable, and variable, but not from those that is told in the Gosple of St. Lucas, Chap. 11,. V. 9 and 11, which is quite probably to you of my having done so, (and regarding to it there also says "Thine ear has not become heavy, that it cannot hear, nor is thy hand shortned, that it cannot save,")—but I astonish of your, that became against thus! My brother, have the goodness to tell, the reson of your inquiry and frequency towards me to be now in such determined excess, and how do you live up without remember me, for do you think than I am such as the seed that has been sown on stony ground or among thorns? Or I am the candle to be put under a bushel, or under a bed? of coarse I think not, but I am such as the seed that has been sown on a good ground that bring forth one to thirty, sixty, and one hundred fold, and undoubtly I am also the candle that can be seten on a candlestick, it is not so?—and being our proceedure so evidental, how could then be neuter and knowingless of the linity and who is other in this transitory that I may shew so much the successively impaltenance of mine in making known to a thing which is notably and well acquainted, there is none my sweet brother except yourself to oversee about it, therefore I am taking the liberty in due time to trouble you for the mentioned purpose, in full hope that even late blood runs to its veil, so do I entreat that it may run too into your well grounded consideration, and then I am sure to get weaped the tears that rools down from the eyes of a lamentable sister who die with impatient to receive even a few lines of your for the greatest consolation of mine; and what other comfort can I have or expect to held, to say there that I have a Father, or Mother (it cannot say so by no means) from whom may I obtain resorce, and vent the circumstance of mine that I suffer for the sake of your fatal retreat, you are therefore the only one that still vivafyingly stand to me in their place, as well as my poor Grandmother does; and it is true, as I conceive, and also you may say, that you are also fatherless, and that God is at large upon all, and I doubt not that particularly he is more merciful to the Orphans, but however as for so far as we live in this blankful world we are under the oblegation to reknon and think, as I have already set hereup to your information, consequently, if stranger and our neighbour, one loves another so much; or may I say inexpressible, how much more we are to love among ourselves one to another, being the sons of a pure and truly Father. Oh my good God, it is impossible for me to make out and pick up the creature who was, and has been so kind to be the author to make you so cruelty from risking out of your human benevalence and generous disposition the kindness of your valuable mind that owes towards me! and conviniently to have it to yourself; but you may rest assure that whosoever has met me, that with the same measure shall be to them returned, St. Matth, chap. 7, v. 2. Further I have to state, that it may please God to grant the life of poor grand mother, who has been severely indisposed, in June last, first in consideration of her growing up in considerable age, and the latter from the attack that she had of her illness, with which have * * * *

Cetera desenct but we are sure our readers have had enough.—ED.

MILITARY ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

ARRIVALS.

May 10.—Surgeon Downey, Staff from Mahabulashwar.
Do. 13.—Captain G. J. Jameson, Deputy Adjt. General, from Cape.
Do. do.—Cadet Ready, from England.
Do. do.—Lieutenant Graves, 18th Regiment from England.
Do. do.—Lieutenant Joddrell, Do. from Ditto.
Do. do.—Cadet Faulkner, from Do.
Do. do.—Lieutenant W. S. Jacob, Engineers, from Cape.
Do. do.—Cadet J. P. Sandwith, Infy. from England.
Do. 14.—Cadet W. S. Harewood, Ditto from Do.
Do. do.—Cadet F. Barr, from Ditto.
Do. do.—Major Willoughby, 18th Regiment N. I. from Mahabulashwar.
Do. do.—Cadet A. G. Brendley, 4th Light Dragoons, from Ditto.
Do. do.—Lieutenant M. Strachey, 26th Regiment M. N. I.

DEPARTURES.

May 13—Capain W. Brett, Artillery to Europe.
Do. do.—Captain J. C. G. Stuart, 42d M. N. I. to Hussingabad.
Do. do.—Assistant Surgeon J. H. Peart, Civil Surgeon to Broach.
Do. 14.—Captain Smith, 26th Regiment N. I. to Poonah.
Do. do.—Lieutenant Glass, Artillery to England.

SHIPPING ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

ARRIVALS.—May 13.—American Ship Brenda, W. B. Smith, Master, from Boston 25th December 1839, Passenger 3 Natives of Zanzibar.

Do. do.—Grab Ship Asia Felix, G. H. Roys, Master, from Calcutta 11th March and Cochin 22nd April.

Do. do.—Barque Tinamara, G. Wilson, Master, from Lanelly 9th January, spoke the Ship Cestern from Liverpool bound to Bombay.

Do. do.—Ship Catherine, C. S. Evans, Master, from London 27th November 1839.

Passengers.—Mrs. Jameson and 2 Children; Mrs. Faulkner; Mrs. Turner; Mrs. Evans; Captain G. Jameson, 3rd N. I.; Lieut. Jacob, B. E.; Lieut. Faulkner, H. M. 2d Queens Comg. Detachment; Lieut. Graves, H. M. 18th Regiment; Lieut. Joddrel, Do. Do. Cornet Brently, H. M. 4th Light Dragoons; Ensign Scott, H. M. 13th Light Infantry, Ensign Statryltor, Do. do.; W. Turner Esqr. I. N.; R. Johnstone, Cadet; J. P. Sandwich, cadet; W. Horwood, cadet; F. Barr, cadet; H. Ready, cadet; Mr. Dunbar merchant; 83 Rank and File; H. M. 13th Light Infantry; 1 Women and 2 Children, 8 Servants.

DEPARTURES.—May 13.—Grab Brig Hamoody. Mahomed bin Ahmud Nacodah, bound to Singapoor and Siam,

Do. 14.—Barque Neptune, W. J. Ferris Master, to London.

Passengers.—Major J. Crawford, H. M. R.; Capt. H. W. Butt, Artillery; Lieut. J. A. Evans; Lieut. J. M. Glasse.

Do. do—Barque Lady East, T. Robinson Master, to London.

SHIPPING IN THE HARBOUR.

E I. C. VESSELS.—Steamers Hugh Lindsay, Semiramis, Berenice, Cleopatra, and Victoria.

Ceylon Govt. Steamer Seaforth, The E I. C. Receiving Ship Hastings; Brig Taptee, Sloop Clive, Schooner Constance, and Shannon, Cutter Margaret.

MERCHANT VESSELS.—Benares, Caudry, Hydroos, Cornwallis, Adelaide, Fort William, Lancaster, Hydroose, Colonel Newall, Lord Castle, Mahomedee, Abbotsford, Dowlutpursad, Futtay Moombarruck, Cauderbux Khain Moombaruck, Gondolier, Kirkman Finlay, Orestes, Regular, Rangoon, Lady Feversham, Mor, Mahamudy, Doulut Savoy, Mayaram Dayaram, Faize Allum, Barossa, Shah Allum, Kusrovie, Moffatt, Soobrow, Lady Grant, Wm. Sharples, John Bull, Bucephalus, Eleanor Lancaster, Caroline, Romeo, John Knox, Shannon, Maria, Inglis, Sincapore, Pittamber Savoy, Barbara, Earl of Clare, Bombay Castle, Lowjee Family, Adele, Brenda, Asia Felix, Tenamara, and Catherine.

PORTUGUESE.—Brig Esperanca, and Simplicia.

FRENCH.—Barque Augustus,

VESSELS EXPECTED.

Vessels.	Agents.	From.	To Sail.
Steamer Sesostris	Supt. Indian Navy	London ..	17th Feb.
Abel Gower....	Dirom, Carter&Co	London ..	15th Feb.
*Earl Durham.	Grey & Co.....	London ..	30th Dec.
Ann.....	Dirom, Carter&Co	London ..	2nd April
Euphrates	Do. Do.....	London ..	2nd Do.
Thetis.....	Do. Do....	London ..	18th Feb.
Tartar.....	Remington & Co.	London ..	15th March
Juverna..	.....	London ..	
Lord W. Bentinck.... ..	D. & M. Pestonjee	London ..	24th Feb.
Justina.... ..	Wooler & Co.. ..	London ..	5th March.
Queen Victoria	.....	London ..	17th Feb.
Caledona	McGregor Browg.	Liverpool	24th Feb.
Cestrian..	Edmond Bibby&C	Liverpool	8th Dec.
Majestic..	George S. King.	Liverpool	1st March
Wilson	W. Nicol & Co..	Liverpool	31st Dec.
Wm. Turner..	P. Milne & Co.	Liverpool	22d Feb.
Crown.....	Dirom Carter&Co	Liverpool	4th Feb.
British King..	Skinner & Co. ..	Clyde.. ..	
Monarch.....	.....	Do.. ..	30th Jan.
Hindoostan ..	.....	Do.. ..	22d Feb.
Quinten Leech	.....	Do.. ..	27th March
Mary Mitchelson....	Foster & Co....	Llanelly ..	30th Nov.
Queen.....	.....	Do.. ..	23d Sept.
Salacia.... ..	Dirom, Carter&Co	Do.. ..	
Pacquet d'Havana..	.....	Bordeaux	5th Aug.
Emilia..	T. Jefferies& Co.	Bordeaux	4th June.
Bolivar..	.....	Rio.....	
Brenda.....	.....	Salem....	25th Dec.
Calcutta.....	Dirom, Cart.&Co	Liverpool.	17th Mar.
Northumberlan	.....	London ..	5th Apr.
Sarah..... ..	Grey and Co.. ..	London ..	25th Mar.
Tweed	.....	.....	15th Do.
Lord Anckland	Dirom Carter&Co	London ..	25th Feb.
Cumbrian.. ..	.....	London ..	2d April.
Dartmouth. ..	Dirom, Carter&Co	London ..	
*Lintin.....	H. and Cardwell.	Liverpool	24th Feb.
Higginson....	Do. Do....	Liverpool	5th Mar.
Amazon.....	.....	Liverpool	2d April.
Willilam.....	Dirom Carter&Co	Liverpool	
Madonna.. ..	Dirom Carter&Co.	Liverpool	
Westmorelan	.....	Hull.....	18rh March
John Garrow.	....	Newcastle	
Memnon.. ..	Dirom Carter&Co.	Llanelly...	
Colchester ..	.....	Llanelly ..	10rh Feb.
Elizabeth Walker.....	....	Do.. ..	do.

* Have sailed, by the latest accounts.

TIME OF HIGH WATER.

MAY 1840.	MORN. H. M.	AFT. H. M.
15th Friday.....	10 19	10 39
16th Saturday.....	10 57	11 15
17th Sunday.....	11 32	11 47

Latest advices Received.

From *London*..... 5TH APRIL.
" *Paris*..... 6TH Do.

DIARY OF THE WEEK.

May 15—Friday.
16—Saturday.—Full Moon. Battle of Albuera 1811.
17—Sunday.—4th Sunday after Easter.
18—Monday.
19—Tuesday.—Dunstan. Dispute at Canton with the Chinese Authorities 1831.
20—Wednesday.
21—Thursday.

THE GAZETTE.

Friday, May 15, 1840.

THE following vessels arrived since our last, Ship *Asia Felix*, G. H. Roys, Master, from Calcutta 11th March and Cochin 22nd April; Do. Barque *Tinamara*, G. Wilson, Master, from Liverpool and Llanelly 9th January; Do. American Ship *Brendor*, W. Bennett, Master, from Boston 25th December; Do. Ship *Catherine*, C. S. Evans, Master, from London 27th November and Cape.—List of Passengers will be found under the usual head of Shipping.

WE congratulate our fellow Citizens on the arrival of the *Brenda* with the long looked for Ice. It could not have arrived at a period when it was more required. As every arrangement has been made for its reception, we trust no unnecessary delay will occur in its delivery, but that we shall soon be able to soothe our parched throats with a cool as well as cheerful glass.

WE regret to learn that a serious accident occurred in the Dock Yard on Wednesday. Four classees were at work on a huge pair of shears, which suddenly fell, precipitating the unfortunate men with violence to the ground and breaking an iron cylinder in their fall. One man died an hour after his arrival at the Hospital, and an Inquest was held upon his body, another is in a dying state, and the remaining two are very much bruised. While upon this subject, we cannot help observing that it was only by mere chance that we heard of the accident, and would venture to suggest to our worthy Coroner that if he would kindly allow the cases that come under his eye to be published, as was permitted by his predecessor, he would confer a boon on the public in general and Editors in particular.

THE Bank of Bombay in reducing the interest on Loans on Government paper to five per cent has done much, but we still advocate a further reduction to 4. There could be no loss on such a measure, and the increase of deposit would probably out-weigh all the temporary disadvantages, while many a great capitalist who has Lacs of Rupees at his disposal, but who does not like to lose one per cent on a great amount of property would at once invest his paper in the Bank.

WE thought that the Shroffs of Bombay would begin to shew their teeth in some way or other as soon as the Bank of Bombay came into full operation; but we did give the cunning Setts and Soucars credit for more wit than their proceedings have warranted. From a most undoubted authority as per advertisement, we learn that those truly honorable individuals the Shroffs aforesaid are charging commission (forsooth)? on a Loan? or an Insurance? or what? No, on cashing the Notes *of the Bank of Bombay*. Now these Gentlemen have for years depreciated the currency & charged more than 2 per cent for giving change for a rupee, and they now walk boldly up to the apex of extortion and ask Commission for the acquisition of what they desire as a means of Hoondee to send to the Provinces, and on which no doubt they realize a per centage on the sale. We particularly wish our Native friends to understand the system of Banking as practised in Europe, and would be happy to turn our acquirements in Native languages to the translation of a Pamphlet written by any good authority for their benefit, on the subject. The enormous fortunes and the undue influence exerted by rich Soukars in the Moofussil can only be sufficiently estimated by those who have had an opportunity of watching the workings of the system. The Marwarries and Bankers of the Western Provinces flock to the large Cities of the Empire and by unwearied exertions amass wealth which is wrung from the poorer class of the Native population. If the Bank of Bombay promised no other results, its institution should be hailed by the Philanthropist as an instalment of healthiness, as applied to the monetary transactions of the Presidency, and its consequent results upon the happiness of the Native community.

WE have received two letters from Poona signed "PUBLIC GOOD," and "FIAT JUSTITIA" ruat cælum and are sorry that they are not calculated for our columns. However as they complain of certain abuses &c. we shall give resomine of their contents.

PUBLIC GOOD complains of the Arrack Contractors being allowed to poison the air of the Poona Bazaar by having his Establishment in the midst thereof, and states that a late Bazaar Master had made arrangements for its removal to a distance from Camp, and trusts that the Brigadier will put such a measure in force, He goes on to state that the contractor wants a remission of his contract, falls foul of the head Cutwal and wishes him to resign in favor of a certain Deputy. He abhors parasites but praises up the present Bazaar Master. Exclaims at the frequent change of those functionaries, and trusts that the Governor will encourage and reward TERRIERS (Query Informers) to ferret out Bandicoots and rats, which infest public Departments &c. &c. &c. That rich men can help themselves make black white and vice versa. "*Some of "the former are better and fitter Gibler de Po-"tence than the Canaille.*" We dare say all this is very sensible, but we cant find out what it has to do with Public Good?

FIAT JUSTITIA complains of the want of an efficient Establishment of Peons in the Post Office at Poonah, and states that it has been represented by the Post Master, but that notwithstanding all disadvantages "the business "is carried on with regularity, attention and "dispatch, and that letters are sorted and de-"livered in less than an hour after their ar-"rival" but that the Establishment is not well paid, and trusts that the Head of this office will make an effort to procure a better scale from government.

WE have extracted an article from the *United Service Journal* on Khiva, which will be read with interest at the present crisis. We observe it has also been copied into the pages of our contemporary the *Times*, but having put it in hand before we were aware of that circumstance, we have allowed it to appear. We are not one of those who conceive that the approximation of the Russian frontier to our own as any evil. We shall be as well able to resist aggression, as they will be slow in offering it, and the intervention of a few barbarous tribes, would be but a poor security against any attempts, of the sort, or if we must come to blows, why perhaps the sooner the better. When we have an open enemy to deal with we shall know how to repel attack, but now under a mask of friendship, the interests of the British

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Empire are really suffering more from Russian policy than open warfare, and an honorable struggle in the field could ever induce.

WE have extracted a long article from the *National* upon the Sulphur question giving the French account of the affair. There is an old saying of setting a thief to catch a thief, and the designs upon Sicily imputed to England and the mention of Malta, betray that France has never forgotten or forgiven us for having torn the Island from her grasp, and the great delight it would give her to despoil us in her turn of the key of the Mediterranean *if she could*. On all sides the political horizon seems gloomy with portentous clouds, but we trust that the star of Britain will still remain in the ascendant, and shine bright and undimmed as it has ever done in the hour of trial and the storm of adversity. We should not be at all surprised if this insignificant Sulphur affair sets the world in a blaze, let but a British gun be fired in the Mediterranean, and the powers of Russia, France, and Austria, will eagerly seize the pretext for flying to arms. France burns to revenge herself for the losses sustained by her arms in 1814 and 15. The Carbonari of all Italy are ripe for revolt and clamorous for liberty. The least encouragement will induce them to throw off the Austrian yoke, and young France if not restrained by the power and sagacity of Louis Phillippe will rush to assist in the affray. Russia will urge her measures on the Porte, trusting to her intrigues in China and Central Asia, to distract the attention of England and divide and weaken her Naval power. We have the greatest confidence in the political sagacity of Lord Auckland, and have no doubt that such a force will be stationed at Herat and on the frontiers of Affghanistan, as will shew the determination of England to allow of no encroachment on our territories, nor those of our Allies, either by Russia, or Persia under her influence, and with regard to the latter power, the occupation of Karrack and our Flotilla in the Gulf, ought to convince them that we are quite prepared to shew our teeth wherever they may be foolish enough to give us provocation. The measure of sending an Embassay to Pekin at this time is quite in keeping with the general insidious policy of Russia, and we have no doubt of the most disinterested offers of mediation from the Czar. We trust however, nothing short of the fulfilment of every article to its furthest extent (as stated by Lord John Russell in Parliament, as the objects of the expedition) by the celestials, will satisfy the leaders of the British expedition. Our Merchants must be indemnified for the spoliation of their property and insult to their persons, while the Chinese must be taught the respect that is due to the representative of a nation, which in the most perilous seasons alone opposed successfully the Conqueror of the world, and when all other European nations however distant, bowed beneath his yoke at the distance of only thirty miles from his shores, defied and finally subdued him. The old wily Pacha of Egypt is watching his opportunity and will cry "Havoc as soon as the dogs of war are unloosed." That some movements are looked for in the Red Sea we have no doubt. The *Berenice* is having her guns put in and she (on dit) is to remain during the monsoon. A strong naval force in that quarter now would count in the game of politics. Let whatever will happen, we think our Naval and Military friends of Bombay are likely to come in for their share of the fray, and we congratulate them accordingly.

We subjoin on the Sulphur affair the following extract from the *Times* of the 2nd April.

"The facts of the monopoly are thus briefly stated:—By the treaty British subjects resident in the Sicilies were permitted to buy, sell, and dispose of their property without let or hindrance, and nevertheless the Government granted a monopoly to two Frenchmen, and bound itself to force all the proprietors in Sicily, British subjects included, to limit the production of their mines to 600,000 cantars per annum, the company to pay the proprietors a prize fixed by the Government, without any consent on the part of the proprietors themselves. The monopolists have the right of exporting the whole 600,000 cantars upon paying the Government 520,000 ducats per annum, which is calculated to be about 8 1-30 carlins per cantar. The defenders of the monopoly urge the right, which is allowed to proprietors, of exporting the produce of their mines instead of selling it to the monopolists; but this defence is met in two points—1, that the produce is even in the case of exportation limited, which, if the proprietors are British subjects, is an infraction of the treaty; 2d, that the proprietors must, on shipment, pay a premium of 20 carlins per cantar, which is more than equal to the original value of the article, and more than double the duty charged to the company."

European Intelligence.

THE SULPHUR QUESTION.

(From the National.)

MESSINA, MARCH 19.

An unexpected piece of news has just reached us. Sicily is threatened with a blockade by England. Already eight vessels of war belonging to that nation are, it is reported, to be sent against the island. However exaggerated may have been the number of naval forces intended to make a demonstration upon the coast of the kingdom of Sicily, it is certain that the Neapolitan Government is embarking with all possible speed troops to be opposed to the disembarcation of the English navy. The arrival of the 10th Regiment of the Line is already announced at Messina, and to accelerate the transport of her military forces, the King is going to put into requisition all the steam-vessels that he can dispose of. The order was even given three days ago to stop the Maria Christina, which was ready to start; and it was only upon the pressing solicitations of the passengers, who were all on board, that the vessel obtained permission to make another voyage to Marseilles. This threatening aggression on the part of England against a friendly nation has for its reason the refusal of the King to break through the treaty which gives up the monopoly of the Sicilian sulphur to a French company—Taix, Aycard, and Co.

Before entering into detail as to the circumstances which have induced the King to make this declaration, it is necessary to inform you of the principal articles of this famous contract of sulphur, which has been incessantly harped upon by England from the very moment of its existence. You will allow me to make some development upon a subject in which Sicily is interested to that pitch that its future prosperity or complete ruin perhaps depends upon it.

On the 27th of June, 1833, Ferdinand, on the proposition of the Minister, San Angelo, granted the privilege of the sale of sulphur to a company. At the same time the order restrained the extraction of sulphur, till then unlimited. In order to justify that measure, it was asserted that the produce of that mineral being annually increased from 390,000 cantajes (the cantajo being equal to about 27lb. English weight) beyond the commercial demands, such a fall in the prices resulted, that certain proprietors of mines preferred leaving them unworked, whilst a great number of others saw themselves on the verge of being ruined. It was therefore in order to raise the value of sulphur without giving access, as it was textually affirmed by the *expose*, to ideas of privilege and monopoly, that a contract was passed between the King, interceding with the proprietors of the mines in Sicily and Messrs. Taix and Aycard.

The annual produce of sulphur is limited to 600,000 cantajes. The company is obliged to buy every year that quantity, at 25, 24, 23, 22, and 21 carlins (the carlin is worth about 4d. English money), according to the different qualities. And as it has been shown, according to the treaty, that Sicily in former years has extracted as much as 900,000 cantajes of sulphur, the company will pay four carlins premium to the proprietors per cantejo for that overplus which ought to remain in the mines. Therefore, as the produce of each sulphur mine was obtained, which was fixed upon a basis of which I shall speak presently, the proprietors could immediately consign half of the sulphur with which they were taxed to the depots, and the company would pay the value forthwith. The other half was to be bought in the course of the year, and the money paid off within the rigorous delay of one year. Besides, every proprietor who could offer, either by himself or others, a sufficient guarantee, had the right to reclaim each year, by anticipation, from the company, the third of the price of the sulphur he is to produce. In short Messrs. Taix and Aycard are prohibited from selling their sulphur above 45, 43 and 41 carlins. The capital of the society is fixed at 1,200,000 ducats (192,000l.), of which 900,000 were to be paid down in the course of the year. The remaining, 300,000 ducats are divided into 1,000 shares of 300 ducats each, bearing interest at 6 per cent. In case these shares should not have been subscribed, the company binds itself to make up the amount. It undertakes besides to pay annually a contribution of 400,000 ducats. Government, on the one hand, associates itself with the enterprise for a sum of 600,000 ducats, which raises the capital to 7,200,000 francs (288,000l.). As to the proprietors, they are at liberty to sell their sulphur to whom they please by paying an indemnity of 20 carlins per cantajo to the company.

In order to fix the quota of produce of each mine in the total sum of 900,000 cantajos, the proprietors were, in the first three months of the contract, to declare what quantity they had extracted during the years 1834, 1835, 1836, and 1837. The quarter of the entire produce of these four years forms the annual quantity that the sulphur mine can furnish; two-thirds of this sum represent the sulphur which is allowed to be extracted; the other third, the mineral remaining in the mine, and upon which the proprietor receives a premium of carlins per cantaja. Three commissaries named by Government are intrusted with superintending the above conditions. They are to be provided with a key of the cash chest, are to act as intermediate parties between foreign buyers and the company, and are to arrange the difficulties which might arise between the latter and the proprietors. The duration of the society is fixed for ten years, commencing from the 1st of August 1838.

Such is the substance of this contract, which has brought against it so much anger, not only from foreigners, but from the interior of Sicily. That which has cast upon it at first so much disgrace is the immoral manner in which it has been obtained. It is stated, even, that 100,000 ducats were the means resorted to bribe the three corruptible Ministers of the King of Sicily. In principle, it is maintained that propriety is violated, by obliging the extractors of sulphur to sell at a limited price a quantity of their produce, equally limited, to a single buyer, the duty of 20 carlins per cantajo of selling to any other than the company being equivalent to an absolute prohibition. Much stress was laid upon the arbitary limitation made, without previous information, of 600,000 cantajos of sulphur to be extracted yearly. At a later period, reproaches were made of the non-execution of the contract; delay in the payments occurred, refusal was made to make the indispensable advances to proprietors who were in want of them, and to receive sulphur that had been extracted in the depots according to the prices and conditions agreed upon.

It is but right to add that the proprietors themselves are not without blame. Therefore, when the first intelligence was received of the arrangement of a treaty, they hastened to extract enormous quantities of sulphur, and to despatch them to foreign parts, in such a manner, that the company finding the market overstocked could not get rid of the produce they were bound to be provided with. On the other hand, the greater part of the proprietors furnished such exaggerated statements of the produce of their mines during the years that were to serve as a basis for the fixation of their quota in the general sum, that the division could not be made without affecting in a great measure the interests of a certain number. Therefore the Government supposed that Sicily only produced 900,000 cantajos, and it took that cipher as the fundamental point of its calculation; but the more or less illusory statements brought that sum down to 2,000,000 or 3,000,000, which rendered it necessary to rate each proprietor in proportion to the sum declared, deducting the quantity which would have exceeded 900,000 cantajos. Hence arose the errors and injustice, coupled with the complaints of the victims. Whatever may have been the case, the most enlightened men of Sicily, those severely censuring the conduct of the company, acknowledge that the contract of the 27th of June, faithfully executed on one side and the other, would be extremely advantageous to their country, and they ground their opinion upon the following calculations:—Before the treaty, sulphur came down as low as 12 or even 11 carlins the cantajo; therefore the expenses of extraction, amounting to 10½ carlins, the proprietors profits were reduced to about 20 centimes whilst the prices of the contract (Taix and Aycard) gave at least five carlins clear per cantajo to the proprietors of sulphur mines. Nevertheless, the sulphur that had accumulated at the end of 1837 at Marseilles and Malta became exhausted, and the company keeping up their prices, trade with England became paralyzed with such a state of affairs, and petitions were addressed to Parliament to get get rid of a monopoly which had been the cause of raising to double its price an article indispensable to English manufactures. These claims found warm supporters in the Tories. Ministers then said, upon the faith of despatch from Mr. Kennedy, the Envoy at Naples, that they entertained hopes that every thing would be shortly arranged in a satisfactory manner for Great Britain.

The English Cabinet had, in short, some time before sent a somewhat hasty note upon the affair to its diplomatic agent. The latter communicated it to M. Carrero, Minister for Foreign Affairs, who begged of him not to deliver to the King a despatch couched in such terms, and promised to bring to a conclusion the difference that existed. Mr. Kennedy wrote to that effect to his Government, and the affair was mentioned in Parliament, as if everything was settled. But, no change taking place in the state of affairs, the English envoy made a fresh demand to M. Carrero. After five and twenty days silence, the Minister at last replied that the King had refused to break through a contract without honourable and serious motives. Whereupon the Attorney General of Messina was ordered to examine the treaty, in order to discover if there existed any legal nullity which could be argued in any proceeding for annulment before the tribunals.

But on learning Ferdinand's peremptory refusal, the English Cabinet sent an injunction to break the contract immediately, to pay 1,000l. sterling damages for each day since the passing of the treaty, if it would not be coerced by such means as it might deem advisable. The English Government grounds its pretensions upon a treaty contracted in 1816 between Great Britain and the King of Naples, which enacts that as far as the mineralogical produce of Sicily is is concerned, England shall be placed on the footing of the most favoured nations: the concession of the sulphur monopoly destroying that right, must be therefore considered as violating a former treaty.

Such is the state of the question. Now, what will be the results of this debate? Will the King yield? England embroiled with China, much occupied with Constantinople, ready to sail to Alexandria, in bad odour with Portugal, can she spare eight vessels from her fleets to blockade an island that has a coast of 600 miles? I doubt it; but what I firmly believe is, that the sulphur question is only an apparent motive for the warlike conduct of England. Its true object is the occupation of Sicily. It is a prey which she has coveted and watched for from the height of her rock at Malta for many years. Under such circumstances, it is the duty of the French Government to keep a sharp look out upon the ambitious projects of her faithful ally, and to oppose herself by every means to an occupation upon the presumable duration of which the experience of Gibraltar, Malta, St. Helena, &c. must have sufficiently enlightened us.—*Times*, April 2.

THE KHANATE OF KHIVA.

(FROM THE NOTE-BOOK OF A LATE RESIDENT,)

After a long and tedious journey across the inhospitable Caspian desert, we reached the frontiers of what may properly be called the Khanate of Khiva; for though its authority extends far beyond them, yet it can hardly be said to have any fixed limits, as there is no rival power to dispute its sway over the wide and trackless steppes which encircle it on all sides. It has, indeed, the mighty "White Czar" for its northern neighbour, with the Caspian and Russian forts on the west, its deadly enemy, the Persian, in the south-west, and its jealous rival of Bokhara toward the south-east; but then its isolated situation, in the very heart of this sandy belt, renders it more inaccessible than its actual geographical position would otherwise make it, while the want of all accurate data sometimes occasions a mistake of several days in calculating its distance even from Orenburg. The caravans, too, are certainly never more than two days out of the reach of obtaining water, but then that contained in the wells and cisterns along the route, is more or less brackish, and we did not meet with any springs of fresh water, except in the ancient bed of the Oxus. The journey through these wastes in summer is also rendered extremely fatiguing by the dense whirlwinds of sand, which frequently last a whole day, and so completely intercept the rays of the sun, that there is no alternative but to halt or grope along in the dark.

But how unavailing are all these drawbacks to its security! Whatever pretexts Russia may allege to justify her expedition against Khiva—be it the redress of wrongs or the extension of trade—there can hardly be a doubt in the mind of any one who has attentively watched the rapid, though insidious, march of her encroachments within the last fifty years and penetrated into the drift of her numerous treaties and negotiations, that it is her design permanently to establish herself at Khiva; a step which will give her the command of the navigation of the Oxus—the largest river of Central Asia—which will bring her within twelve days' march of the very frontiers of Afghanistan, and thence within as many of the north-western banks of the Indus; and all this through passes which are practicable during six months of the year. I need scarcely refer to the importance of her success in the enterprise against Khiva as a means of developing her designs against the Eastern possessions of the British empire—a State which cannot exist as a land of constitutional liberty without endangering the stability of her own dominion as a pure and heartless despotism. But I forget that I have not as yet introduced my subject.

Khiva, or Ourghendje, in Dshagtai, or Independent Tartary, formed part of the ancient Chorasmia; and it again appears in the annals of the twelfth century as the Khorazm of the Arab dynasty, which, after attaining to a high pitch of power and splendour, was overthrown by the victorious arms of Ghengis Khan in 1220, and finally by Timour-Lung in 1379. It afterwards became a province of Persia; but as the Khivans professed the Soonnee creed, they invited an Usbeck Sultan from Toorkestan to rule over them in 1512, and the government has ever since remained in the hands of his descendants. It lies between 56d. 40m. and 59d. 60m. E. long., and 39d. and 44d. N. lat. Khiva Proper may be about two hundred miles in length, from north to east, and nearly one hundred in breadth from east to west, though its authority, as I have already observed, extends over an almost unlimited track of steppes—namely, northwards to Lake Aral; westwards, for nearly five hundred miles, to the banks of the Caspian; and, southwards, even beyond the frontiers of Persia, from which State, the present Khan, in 1832, took the now-ruined towns of Meroe, on the Moorgaub, and Shurook, or Shurrucks, on the Tedshe.

Khiva may be regarded as consisting of two distinct parts—1st, the nucleus, or "Khiva Proper," lying within the bend of the river Amu-Deria, or Oxus, and inhabited by Khivans, or Khivintzes, as the Russians call them, and nomadic tribes of the same family; and, 2ndly, the tract of steppe land, traversed by kindred tribes, to whom the former occupants have yielded either voluntarily or by force.

The general character of the country is that of a dead flat, with the exception of the slightly-elevated chain of the Saré Baba, which rises westwards between Touer and the Salt Lake near Krasnovodsk, and the chain of the Chikh Djeri, which runs eastward along the banks of the Oxus as far as Lake Aral. This range is said to contain mines of copper, lead, and sulphur, but the two latter only are worked, and with indifferent skill. We were told that mines of gold and silver have also been discovered in them, and that the waters of the Oxus contain gold dust;—a tradition which, the Khivans assert, tempted Peter the Great to send the expedition under Prince Behevitch into these parts: but we found it exceedingly difficult to procure any certain information on this head, for they appeared to be as much afraid of exciting the cupidity of the Russians as they were of incurring their vengeance for the barbarous murder of the prince in 1717. On the eastern banks of Lake Aral stands the isolated mountain of Kouba, which seems to be a prolongation of the chain of Mangushluk. We saw nothing resembling a wood or forest during our route, but as large rafts are floated up the Oxus from the lake, there are, no doubt, considerable forest on the Kirghizian frontiers. The whole of the district, which is generally supposed to have been at some remote period, the bed of the ocean presents a most interesting field of geological research.

The central part of Khiva is a beautiful and highly-cultivated basis, lying in this below described by the Amu-Deria (also called the Gehon as well as Oxus which forms its eastern and north-east boundary nearly as far as its mouth on Lake Aral. It is impossible to conceive anything more charming than the first view of the highly cultivated fields, the luxuriant vineyards and orchards, the rich corn-field and scattered villages, lying on the banks of canals, which embellish the rich plain of Khiva and among which rise the gilded balls and; gaily-painted cupolas of the mosques.

The only river in Khiva is the Amu-Deria, generally allowed to be the Oxus of ancients, although its course, by some extraordinary convulsion of nature, has been forced, many centuries ago, to diverge from the Caspian into Lake Aral. The obscurity which hangs over the history of Central Asia, leaves us without any data respecting a phenomenon which converted these once-fruitful plains into arid and desolate steppes. The fact of such a convulsion, however, is preserved in a tradition related by a Russian traveller, which states it to have occurred about five hundred years ago, and it is still clearly attested by the traces of the ancient bed towards the Caspian. The Oxus at that time formed a line of demarcation between the two orally distinct nations of Iron and Touran, and was the great medium of the trade with India.

As it is this latter circumstance which has ostensibly revived the notoriety of the Oxus in the present day but still more essentially its political importance, I shall fully state all the information I have been able to collect on the subject. The Oxus takes its rise in the lofty ridge and table-land of Pamer, which divides Thibet from Great Bokhara, and rushes down the mountains and their long slopes with great impetuosity. Above Balkh it enters upon the vast plain of Bokhara, skirting, along its western bank, the great desert of Khorazm. In its lower course it traverses the fertile basis of Khiva, where its waters are diverted into innumerable canals for the purposes of irrigation, and, after forming an extensive delta, discharge themselves by two mouths into Lake Aral, after completing a course of more than twelve hundred miles. Being increased by the waters of five large and numerous smaller tributaries, it flows along in a broad and rapid stream, averaging half a mile in breadth from Balkh to beyond Khiva. On the melting of the alpine glaciers, among which it has its source, the navigation of the Oxus, especially up the stream, which is at all seasons the most tedious is rendered extremely hazardous and difficult, but its turbulence subsides in little more than sixty days, so that it is open for about eight months in the year, having a sufficient depth for boats of large burden. During severe winters the Oxus is frozen, sometimes to the depth of twenty inches: in the vicinity of Khiva this occurs about Christmas, and occasionally lasts a month.

Though its course is from south-east to north-west, its waters are carried into the remotest parts of Khiva by canals, constructed with much care and skill—some being raised on artificial dykes, others, again, intersect and are carried over the lower ducts by means of bridges. Many of the larger ones are thirty feet wide in some places, and have smaller canals branching from them. The principal canal is the Ghiktam-Ou, above Khiva, near a village of the same name.

The only lake of Khiva is the Aral, or Lake of Islands, which receive the Amu-Deria, or Oxus, the Sir-Deria, or Sihon (Jaxartes), and the Kisil-Deria, all of which empty themselves into the lake by various mouths, and thus form a multitude of small islands.

The climate of Khiva is temperate and salubrious, and the great heat in summer is moderated by frequent easterly and south-easterly winds; the nights, however, are cold. There is very little rain in summer; the greatest quantity falls in the autumn, when the high winds raise thick clouds of sand, which are extremely annoying. The thunder-storms are very slight, and I never heard of any persons or houses being struck by lightning.

In the beginning of June the greater part of the grain is ripe, and a few weeks later the orchards reach their maturity. Winter sets in at the commencement of October and lasts till the end of March. The cold is most severe about Christmas, and the thermometer frequently falls as much as 16d. or 18d. below the freezing point. At this time the rivers and canals are frozen over, but they break up in about a month. The intensity of the cold cold varies greatly; the winter being sometimes excessively severe, like that of 1827, when the river was frozen to the depth of twenty-seven inches: the frost lasted six weeks, and the snow lay knee-deep. In ordinary years there is very little snow, and the winters are often so mild that none of the rivers are frozen over. In the spring, when the thaw sets in, and towards the end of June, when the snows begin to melt on the mountain-tops, inundations are frequent.

The once-barren and sandy soil of the interior of Khiva has, by the unwearied labour of its aboriginal inhabitants, the Sarts who have di-

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ligently irrigated the whole by means of canals been converted into a fruitful plain, and produces more grain than is required for domestic consumption. The chief grain in cultivation is wheat; rice is raised, but in small quantities, on account of the difficulty of irrigation; the other produce grown is oats, pease, beans, lentils, hemp, cotton, and the sesame, or "koundjout," from which large quantities of oil are extracted—the "djogan" (holcus sorghum?), which yields fodder for horses, &c. The fruits are very fine, and grow in greatabundance? among others are various sorts of grapes, which are dried and exported apples, pears, almonds, cherries, mulberries, and pomigranates: the melons grow to an extraordinary size and have a delicious flavour. Khiva possesses large herds of oxen, camels, sheep, and horses, which subsist upon scanty pasture; the stag, and "djeiran," a species of antelope, are common, and wolves, jackals, and foxes are occasionally met with.

The Khivans can hardly be said to possess any manufactures: the only article made by them is cotton cloth and a mixture of cotton and silk, which the women weave in their own dwellings. They carry on an extensive caravan trade with Orenburg in corn, unbleached cottons, silk and cotton stuff, loose robes, called "chalati," embroidered in gold, sheepskiens, Indian and Persian monies, &c., and they receive in exchange various articles of Russian and British manufacture—to which latter they give a decided preference. The export trade amounts to not more than 14,000*l.* sterling a-year.

Khiva is inhabited by four different races: the first are the *Sarts* (or Bokharians), who are the aboriginal inhabitants of the country; they are the of Herodotus, and are a remnant of the ancient Seres, the ancestors of the Teutones; they carry on the trade of the country, and are about 10,000 in number. The *Kara-Kalpacks*, who may be termed the cultivators of the soil, are in part settled in the neighbourhood of Lake Aral; they are oppressed both by the Sarts and Usbecks, and live in great poverty: their numbers may also amount to 10,000. The *Usbecks*, who are lords of the soil by right of conquest, and are about 30,000 in number, are the warriors of the land, and fill all the various offices of state; and, lastly, the *Toorkman*, a rude nomadic people, numbering on an average nearly 15,000. To these we must add a fifth class, composed of Russian, Persian, and Koord slaves: their numbers are variously stated, but, from the information I have been able to procure, it may be stated roundly as, Persian, 30,000, and Russian 3000, of whom not more than a hundred have been able to effect their escape and return to their native land; the greater part of these Russians have been captured by the Kirghizes on the route ot Orenburg and sold into slavery in Khiva—the khans of which, also, return from their military expeditions against Persia with a large number of prisoners. Their Persian captives, who are of the sect of Sheahs, are condemned to the most painful drudgery, while those who, like their conquerors, profess the Soonnee creed, are distributed among the troops.

The Khivans never perform any hard work either in their fields or gardens; those labours are reserved for their wretched slaves, without whom they must starve, as they are too indolent to do anything for themselves. Their allowance of food is at the same time extremely scanty: the khan has lately fixed their monthly rations at two poods (80 lbs.) of wheaten flour per head, while those belonging to private individuals fare still more. They were formerly allowed a larger supply, till the arrival of a Bokhara mullah during the government of the late khan, whom he persuaded that it was sinful to treat the Russians so well, and that he ought to torture them by making them suffer hunger. Notwithstanding, they contrived to lay by a little money by selling their flour and the produce of their pilferings, which is connived at, though severally punished on detection. When they have accumulated as much as thirty or forty tillas (about twenty or five-and-twenty pounds sterling), they agree with their owners for the purchase of their freedom, which is sometime deferred for twenty years, and even then it is conceded only upon condition of their remaining for life within the territories of Khiva. If they are caught in the attempt to run away, their nose and ears are cut off, and the second offence is punished with death: they are, however, always closely watched, and the caravans on leaving Khiva are strictly searched. Their Russian captives are sometimes fortunate enough to send letters to their friends at home, and to receive others in return, through the Kirghizes, who use the utmost cunning to conceal them—sewing them into their caps, clothes, or boots—for if they are found out, they are put to death. In the autumn of 1837 a poor Kirghize was publicly hanged at Khiva because letters to the Russian prisoners had been discovered about his person. The authors or receivers of such letters share the same fate. A Russian who returned last August to Orenburg from his captivity, says:—"Shortly after our departure from Khiva a report was spread there by some Khivans from Orenburg that the prisoners Jegor Tsch, was carrying on a correspondence with his friends in Russia; and, at the same time, a letter, addressed to myself (George Ponoff), was found in the possession of a Kirghize. Being ignorant of the surname of their slaves, they owned only on the name of George (Jegor), and though themselves confirmed in their suspicion against the unfortunate Tsch. By command of the khan he was silently hurried out of the town in the middle of the night, and forced to dig his own grave, into which he was thrust—according to some accounts—alive! On hearing of this melancholy event I instantly stated that the letter had been designed for me, and that Tsch had, therefore, innocently suffered. The reply was—'It cannot be helped; his soul has gone guiltless in to heaven."

On their first arrival at Khiva, the prisoners are publicly sold in the bazaar, like cattle, to the highest bidder: the khan alone pays the actual cost price of the captive; the average price of a strong middle aged man is from sixty to seventy ducats (from twenty to five-and-twenty guineas); the Persians do not fetch so much, and they are forced to renounce their creed, which is not required of the Russian captives. A Russian traveller, on leaving Khiva, where he had been a frequent witness of the cruelties inflicted on his countrymen, found this affecting appeal rolled up in the barrel of his gun; it was written by a young man to whom he had given it for repairs:—"Very noble sir, we take the liberty of announcing to you that in this country there are three thousand Russian prisoners who suffer hunger, cold, and groan under insupportable toil, as well as every kind of insult; have compassion on our miserable state, and lay it before his Majesty the Emperor. Act in such a wise that a wretched prisoner may for ever pray to God for you."

There are a few Jews settled in Khiva, who, however, profess the Soonnee creed, yet without having renounced Judaism. The total population of the khanate is estimated at 350,000. The policy of the late khan, Mahomed Rakim, broke down the strong lines of demarcation which separated the four classes; and, in consequence of the greater equality, it is now not uncommon to see a Sart in the employment of the khan, a Toorkman pursuing agriculture, a Karakalpack turned brigand, and an Usbeck following trade.

The martial spirit of the Khivans, which has descended to them from their ancestors in the remotest ages, and still form a prominent feature in their character, gives peculiar interest to the struggle they will in all likelihood be called upon to maintain with the overwhelming armies of their Russian invaders. As everything relative to their military strength and discipline is of the deepest interest at the present moment, I have not hesitated to enlist into my service some of the following particulars from the observations of the Russian Officer.

Having continually to act on the defensive against numerous hordes of pillaging invaders, and being perpetually distracted with intestine divisions, which prevailed as late as the accession of the last khan, the various chieftains were compelled to seek for safety by erecting forts. These forts, or castles, are generally built in the midst of their fields and garden, and contain granaries, cisterns, hand-mills, and oil-presses—in short, everything necessary to enable a hundred or a hundred and fifty men to hold out for some time. They are square, and built of earth, sometimes mixed with stones; the walls are about nine feet thick below and about one foot above, at the height of about twenty feet; they are supported from without by circular redoubts, also of earth; the length of each of the walls of the square is from one hundred to two hundred feet; the angles are flanked by towers which narrow upwards, but very little—they are terminated in the form of a cupola.

Not having any ditch, they can afford no defence except against a small body of undisciplined assailants. The only entrance—one large gate—is carefully secured at night by chains; their inhabitants, however, as well as the Toorkmans and Kirghizes, believe them to be impregnable. The slaves and attendants live in kibitkas, placed in the centre of the court of the fort, surrounded by their horses, on which they frequently make sorties during the night.

The five chief towns—Khiva, Ourghendje, Khivat, Khival, and Gurlen—are surrounded with walls, which are looked upon as strong defences by the Khivans. These walls are very irregularly built, of a mixture of earth and clay, about twenty freet thick at their base, and twenty-five feet in height. In some places they are flanked with towers, and at intervals supported by circular bastions. These defences, like those of the chieftains' casties, are altogether destitute of artillery.

The khan is able to raise a regular army of about 12,000 Toorkman and Usbeck horse, who are completely armed, and receive each twenty tillas (13*l.*) a year, half of which is paid in money, the other in bread. During a campaign they are furnished with fodder and groats. The officers, who form two classes, *Jusbachi*, who have command over 100 men, and carry a dagger with a black hilt, as a mark of authority, and Mehrem who are over ten to fifteen Jusbachi, whom they may order to be whipped they bear a standard and a dagger with an ivory hilt. Their pay is from forty to seventy ducats, and full provisions, and, if they have no horse of their own, they receive an argamah and fifteen ducats. The Government gives a reward of five and ten ducats for the ears and head of an enemy. In times of emergency he can also rise a body of auxiliary horse from among the Sarts and Karakalpachs, amounting, it is said, to 30,000; but this is an addition rather of numbers than of power, for these undisciplined feudatories, in general, embarrass the operations of the more regular troops.

The Toorkmans and Usbecks who compose the military class, are bound, on the first summons from the khan, to arm and repair to the rendezvous: those who have distinguished themselves, either by military prowess or success in predatory excursions, from the khan's body-guard, and are despatched by him on various services. Upon this the Usbeck and Toorkmen horsemen, who from the bulk of the army, allured by the hope of booty, separate, and follow the partisan selected by the khan; they bestow upon their new-chief the title of "Sardar," and accompany him with the utmost ardour, although he does not exercise any marked authority over them.

On coming up with the enemy, the most valiant rush upon his ranks uttering loud cries—the rest act very much according to their individual courage; and as soon as their bravest men are vanquished, the combat is decided, the leaders take to flight, and are either captured or massacred without mercy by the victor. Such is the ordinary run of the victories celebrated in the poems of the East, whose heroes are, in sober reality, usually destitute of honour, vacillating in courage, and greedy after booty.

All the Khiva troops are obliged to pay their own expenses, except, as I have already observed, the Toorkmen and Usbeck horse; every soldier must find himself in provisions during the whole of the campaign; hence, each person has his camel, or if he is a poor man, one camel suffices for two, which, when the army is encamped, are left to run about at large. You may, therefore, form some notion of the encumbrance and useless train of slaves and attendants which always follow a Khivan army, and which so retard its movements, that it can never proceed more than twenty miles a-day at the utmost, and during the heat of summer not more than eight.

It is impossible for an army of this description to undertake campaign of more than six weeks, as well from the inconstant character of the troops, who do do not recognise the authority of their commanders, as from the want of provisions; an unfavourable climate, an unforeseen check, or other untoward circumstance, will induce the troops to desert their ranks, and return home in straggling parties—a step for which they are amenable to no punishment, or even inquiry, as they are neither regularly enlisted, nor in the receipt of any pay. The Khivan army being composed exclusively of cavalry, can never be brought into action except in open country, nor be led against the assault of a place which is at all fortified; in fact, they never venture upon such an attack, except when compelled by unavoidable necessity. A disciplined army of Europeans would therefore find but little in destroying or rather dispersing these bands; the only difficulty would be to come up with them, and to victual the troops.

The Khan employs about a hundred Russians, of whom fifty-four are gunners, and though he has thirty field-pieces of different calibre, few of them are fit for service, being destitute of carriages or other equipments. Two years ago, a Russian of low origin, called by the Khivans Bil-Bil, was in great favour with the Khan, who conferred on him the honour of wearing a large knife in his girdle. As he professed some knowledge of carpentering, the Khan ordered him to make wheels for his guns; having accomplished his task, he was raised to the rank of court gunner, and empowered to give instructions in his art, though he had, in all likelihood, never even seen a cannon in his own country. Soon after, the Khan set out withan army of 20,000 men against Persia, and the command of the artillery was given to Bil-Bil, who commenced the attack on Merve, by a discharge from his four guns, which were stationed on an eminence. The besieged replied by the fire from their one cannon, which so intimidated the Khivans, that they instantly took flight. The Persians made a Bortie; but although Bil-Bil had to put to his horse, they did not venture to take his cannon, and he succeeded in making his escape. This is a specimen of Khivan warfare. The Khan has a foundry of his own, in which a regular founder from Constantinople was in the first instance employed; but copper is exceedingly scarce, and a very large gun of this metal, which cost the Khan 3,000 rubles only two years ago, burst on the first trial. Cannon balls are also cast; but cartridges are unknown

The Khivans make a kind of gunpowder, in the manufacture of which they employ the Sarts; but as they are ignorant of the exact proportions of its composition, it is very indifferent, and they accordingly procure supplies from Russia. Like other Eastern nations, they never abandon their comrades who have been slain in battle, but will either rescue them at the imminent peril of their lives, or ransom them for a large sum, if demanded.

The ordinary arms of the Khivans are the sword, dagger, lance, bow and arrows, and musket; sometimes they wear a helmet and cuirass; and as an offensive weapon against those who are thus armed, they carry a battle-axe. The sword, or rather scimitar, however, is their favourite weapon; the finest are of Khorassan steel; and as the Khivans are unable to forge them, they employ Russian slaves for the purpose. They fetch a high price, and are worn in scabbards of red leather; they have poniards too, which resemble large knives, but are rarely used. The wood of their pikes is slender like a reed, not more than three feet and a half in length, and the points of excellent iron. Such as are destitute of muskets, carry a bow of middling size, and rather stiff; their arrows do not reach near as far as those used by the Kabards.

They have but few muskets; the barrels are long, heavy, usually twisted, and of small calibre; tolerably accurate when loaded with good powder, but exceedingly inconvenient. They are used only for ambuscades, as the Khivans cannot pull them, excepting when supported on a rest; they have a long but-end and a match, and are frequently ornamented with silver Damascene tracery; the Khivans sometimes range muskets into batteries, like the Persians: they take a tolerably fair aim, but are so exceedingly slow in their movements, that the match often goes out; they have no pistols.

Some of the Khivans still wear casques and corslets, which have not yet entirely disappeared in Asia, especially in those parts where firearms are still uncommon. Their battle axes resemble hammers with long handles; they are pointed at the one end, and obtuse at the other, and one violent blow proves fatal.

The best defence of the Khivans in time of war, are their Toorkman horses, which are prized all over the East of their spirit, strength, and beauty; they are capable of enduring the greatest fatigue, and will traverse 1,000 wersts, (650-700 miles,) in a week through steppes, totally destitute of food or water; their only nourishment consists in a little djogan or sorgo, with which his rider is supplied, and they will go for four days together without drinking. The Khivans are not afraid to give their horses drink when in the greatest heat; but they always take the precaution of giving them a long gallop after it. Such, however, is the extreme avarice of the Khivans that even when at home they never allow their horses more than a very scanty and miserable feed. Their saddles are much raised, and have a broader back than the Persian. Many of the richer Khivans decorate their harness with silver and cornelians.

The love of booty is the ruling passion of the Khivans; and though it is pursued almost exclusively by the Toorkmans, the Khans does not hesitate to encourage their propensities, as he receives a fifth of the prisoners and booty, under the title of tribute, in return for which, he presents them with vestments or other articles. If any of their prisoners turn out to belong to opulent families, the Toorkmans takes the greatest care of them, with the view of obtaining a handsome ransom.

The present Khan of Khiva, Allah Kuli, succeeded to the government in 1826. He is forty-five years of age, and has two sons, the eldest of whom, Raham Kul Thura, is about twenty-five, and Hadshai Kul Thura, twenty years old.

Allah Kuli is of a mild and peaceable character, and, being no friend to robbery, murder, or even hunting, is very unpopular among his Toorkman and Usbeck subjects. Indeed, his father attempted to exclude him from the succession and at his death appointed his second son, Rahman Kuli—but, at the suggestion of the wise Shir Nos Atalyk, this decision was set aside—and Rahman Kuli lives now in Hesarab, where he levies tribute upon the neighbouring people; he does not show the slightest respect to his brother, but is, as we might suppose, adored by the Usbecks and Toorkmans. It is said that the Khan, when young, acquired a fondness for spirituous drinks from the Russian slaves, which, though indulged in private, often led him to acts of the grossest intemperance. In other respects he appears a lover of order, and severely punishes every act of deceit and robbery, which but serves to increase the dislike of his more lawful subjects.

With regard to his mental acquirements, I was told that he could speak and write Russian, in which he was instructed by a native of Astrachan. He never quits his palace during the day, except on Friday, the Mahomedan Sabbath, when he repairs to the mosque. At night he goes into his garden, and rides about the town. The Aksakaks, or white-beards, come to make their salam to him every morning, when various questions are asked, and some business transacted. He resides in a very mean house within the fortress, guarded by fifteen men, under command of a brother of Kush-Begi, or prime minister—one is placed at the gate, and two others at the door of a prison, in which only persons of distinction are confined. He is said to have two wives, the eldest of whom is the daughter of a Kirghiz Sultan; she is of an exceedingly haughty and penurious disposition, and completely rules the Khan her husband. Like all Oriental women, they lead a life of great confinement and misery, subject to the constant suspicions of their husbands, who punish every instance of infidelity with the utmost severity. The Khan's wives are not permitted to leave their apartments during the day—at night they sometimes drive out in a common cart to visit their relations. Their allowance of food is very scanty; and even the Khan's wives have their daily rations weighed out to them. The allowance for the whole court is three poods (120 lbs.), per diem, of wheaten flour, two poods of rice, one pood of meat, and one half pood of Sesam butter. So rigorous is their economy, that many of the women send portions of their pillau to be sold in the bazaar, to enable them to make any little purchases. The court lower kitchen is superintended by a female Persian slave, who has barely enough for her maintenance; the upper, is managed by a Russian, who contrives to make her office more lucrative. Twice in the day all the servants of the court, the Khan, his wives and children, come to her for their rations which are apportioned according to their respective ranks; the Khan of course has the largest share, and as he does not consume the whole, he dispatches the remainder to his ministers and officers of state, who frequently dispute about its division.

The Usbecks evince more genius than the rest of the Tartar races; they are fond of music and poetry, and would, from their natural disposition, be inclined to acts of generosity and hospitality, were not all their actions governed by the most sordid avarice. Their favourite beverage is tea, but I was told that although passionately fond of sweetmeats, the Khan never indulges in the luxury of sugar more than twice a week. They are great lovers of their beautiful horses, but stint them to the smallest possible allowance; are severe and even tyrannical towards their children, but at the same time manifest great regard for all the outward forms of religion. Being of the Soonnee dogma of Mohammedanism, they hate the Sheahs even more cordially than they do the Christians. They tolerate none but the dominant religion, though the Russian slaves are allowed to continue in their own faith.

The chief town, Khiva, is situated on an eminence near a canal of the Oxus, from which it is two days' journey distant. It is surrounded by a clay wall, three fathoms thick at the base, and one foot at the top, and about eighteen feet high, with embrasures at regular intervals, but no cannon. It contains 3,000 houses built of clay, with flat roofs, but without windows, and has a population of about 15,000. There are thirty mosques, the principal of which is held in high veneration by the Mohammedans, and an upper school (or Medress). The streets are narrow, crooked, and dirty; and altogether it is greatly inferior both in population and importance to New Ourghendje, which lies in the central part of Khiva, and presents a very animated scene; its streets being thronged with merchants and loaded camels, and its numerous shops displaying every variety of Oriental manufacture.—*United Service Journal for March.*

S. S.

THE BIRMINGHAM CHARTISTS.—On Wednesday, at Warwick, Brown, the Bull-ring orator, and "delegate" from Birmingham to the "National Convention," was convicted of sedition, and sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment. In the cases of Julian Harney and Henry Wilkes, whose trials had been postponed, no evidence was offered, it having been agreed that if, in the interim, they conducted themselves properly they should be acquitted.—(Globe.)

The Naval and Military Almanac for 1840.—This is, beyond all comparison, the most elegant and complete publication of its class—considered in reference to the especial objects to which it is addressed—we have yet seen. It contains a great quantity of miscellaneous matter interesting to the naval and military services, together with the information usually embraced in such periodicals, and it is illustrated by a most prodigal collection of beautiful engravings, chiefly portraits of celebrated men, battles, plans, and signals, with the further attraction of a facsimile of NELSON'S hand writing. Mr. MAXWELL is the editor of this work, which reflects credit on his industry as well as his judgment.

The Edinburgh Academic Annual for 1840.—The contributors to this volume (which, unlike all other annuals is an unembellished book, depending upon intrinsic merit alone) are *alumni* of the Edinburgh University and their papers relate exclusively to subjects of a purely literary or scientific cast. Some of these articles have a dry and artificial air, but are still highly creditable to the talents of their authors: while not a few of them develope abilities from which lofty and enduring labours may be hereafter expected. It, is, indeed, rare that a book of this kind, exhibiting such a spirit of enquiry, is found to proceed from a club of students, and the university of Edinburgh has much reason to be proud of the talents thus nurtured in her cloisters.

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